

RECOGNIZING THE TRANTHAM
FAMILY AS ALABAMA'S OUT-
STANDING YOUNG FARM FAMILY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Daniel and Carla Trantham and their children, Davis, Sadie, Anna Kate, Sawyer and Callie for being named Alabama's Outstanding Young Farm Family as well as being named the nation's top young farm family during the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention. This is the first time an Alabama Farmers Federation farm family has won this award.

The Tranthams are row crop and cattle farmers who run their own feed operation. They bag and sell over 80 tons of feed and grain on a weekly basis at their storefront in Alexandria and through feed stores.

The Trantham family also sells wheat straw and Bermudagrass hay while improving yields on 1,000 acres of corn, wheat, soybeans and cotton through irrigation and seed selection. Since 2010, Daniel has more than doubled grain storage and tripled his cattle herd.

The family also operates a trucking company where Carla manages payroll.

The Tranthams are members of Leatherwood Baptist Church. Daniel is the local Young Farmers chair and serves on the Alabama Farmers Federation State Soybean Committee. Carla serves on the local Women's Leadership Committee.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this young family on these 2 great honors. Congratulations to the Tranthams.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GEN-
ERAL STEVEN ROGER RUDDER,
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
(RETIRED)

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Marine who has served our great nation for over 38 years. From a Cobra Pilot to a General Officer leading the Marine Corps largest operational command, Marine Forces Pacific, Lieutenant General Steven Rudder has made a significant impact on the Marine Corps. He has flown attack helicopters in combat and commanded Marine Aircraft Group (MAG) 26, and also was in charge of the Legislative Affairs office for the Marine Corps. During his time with the Legislative Affairs office, he was responsible for ensuring the U.S. Congress had the most up to date information on all Marine Corps ground and air programs.

He commanded the 1st Marine Air Wing in Japan with Wing deployments to Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, and Australia. He also served as the planning officer at the United States Indo-Pacific Command where he led operational planning and further strengthened relationships with our Western Pacific partners and allies.

As the Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation, he aggressively

transitioned the F-35B aircraft program to include oversight of the historic F-35B deployment on the HMS *Queen Elizabeth*. Additionally, Lieutenant General Rudder completed the MV-22 and H-1 aircraft transitions and increased the readiness of Marine Corps Fighter force to 80 percent.

Lieutenant General Rudder finished his career by commanding Marine Forces Pacific, the largest Marine Corps command with over 80,000 Marines. Under his command, the Marine Forces Pacific reestablished a significant program with the Philippines and entered into several trilateral agreements with Japan and Australia. Lieutenant General Rudder would go on to chair the 20 nation Pacific Amphibious Leaders Symposium with his Japanese counterpart. He was a key figure in the reestablishment of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Marine Corps Air Group.

Ashore or afloat, Lieutenant General Rudder has insured our Marines were ready to fight on behalf of our nation, and on behalf of our nation's commitments to our allies and partners. For his incredible leadership, Lieutenant General Rudder was awarded the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun by former Minister of Defense Nobuo Kishi. He was also awarded the Gukun Medal, which is also called the Order of National Security Merit, signed by South Korean President Yoon Suk-Yeol. It was personally awarded by the ROK Commandant and signifies the impact Lieutenant General Rudder has made in the defense of the Pacific Theater of Operations.

Lieutenant General Rudder's awards include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Combat "V" Device, the Defense Superior Medal (2 awards) and the Legion of Merit (2 awards). The Distinguished Flying Cross with Combat "V" Device is of particular note, as it is our Nation's highest award for extraordinary aerial achievement and in Lieutenant General Rudder's case, was awarded due to his courage and skill in combat.

I want to note the close ties Lieutenant General Rudder and his family has with my Congressional District (NC-03). They were stationed for about 10 years total in the Jacksonville, North Carolina area. His son, Dean Rudder, graduated from high school there and is a graduate of East Carolina University (ECU) and his daughter, Brittany, attended three schools in my District. Brittany currently resides in Jacksonville, where she has made it her permanent home for the past 12 years.

I would be remiss if I did not emphasize his wife, Holly, and her support of Lieutenant General Rudder's career. She was 100 percent behind him during his entire 38-year career and is a Navy veteran herself, after growing up in an Air Force family living all over the world. Needless to say, many of Lieutenant General Rudder's successes can be attributed directly to Holly's support. I wish both of them all the best as they transition to this new chapter of life. May they have fair winds and following seas. Semper Fidelis.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICARDO
MOLINA SR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Ricardo Molina Sr., who passed away on December 29, 2022.

Mr. Molina leaves behind a giant legacy. A native of Laredo, Texas, he was a tireless advocate for education and young people in South Texas. After joining the United ISD Board of Trustees in 1996, Mr. Molina spearheaded efforts to bolster school security, reduce rates of drug use and dependency, and establish the district's dropout recovery program. He was also an advocate of adult education programs in Webb County, believing that learning is a lifelong endeavor.

Mr. Molina's life is a testament to the value of education and hard work. At different times in his life, he worked in oil fields, cotton fields, and machine shops. He identified most with kids from working-class backgrounds, always fighting to ensure they had the very best opportunities in the classroom and beyond. When UISD opened a brand new, state-of-the-art middle school in August 2022, it was only fitting that the new school bear Mr. Molina's name.

As a pillar of our community, Mr. Molina will be missed dearly. My thoughts are with his loved ones, and I pray that they find comfort in the beauty of their memories with him—and in the knowledge that Mr. Molina touched the lives of so many in our community.

NEIL M. LARIMER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Neil M. Larimer, Colonel, United States Marine Corps, of Southlake, Texas for the honorable service he performed while in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Larimer was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1956, serving as an artillery officer with the Second and Third Marine Divisions during the Vietnam War. He saw combat while in convoy operations in South Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat "V" device indicating valourous actions in combat and the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in a roadside bomb blast. His other decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and Parachutist Badge.

The selflessness Mr. Larimer demonstrated in the U.S. Marine Corps continues with his service to his community. He has volunteered on the Executive Swimming Committee for the Amateur Athletic Union and as a Lector with his local Catholic church.

Mr. Larimer's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Marine